198337US-3

"RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116-EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_"

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

:

HISASHI MITAMURA

: EXAMINER: MACKEY, J. P.

SERIAL NO: 09/684,673

FILED: OCTOBER 11, 2000

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1722

FOR: TIRE VULCANIZING EQUIPMENT:

**AMENDMENT** 

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated March 17, 2003, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A tire vulcanizing equipment comprising:

a vulcanizing station having placing parts for placing tire mold assemblies movable in a closed state and a housing shelf vertically having plural stages of the placing parts;

an opening and closing station having a placing part for placing the tire mold assembly, an opening and closing device for opening and closing the tire mold assembly placed on the placing part of the opening and closing station, a carrying-out device for 1831 ADD TONHOGIL

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